

CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79B00864A001400010085-3

#31

EAST EUROPE BRANCH NOTES

March 13, 1974

OCI# 0555/74

YUGOSLAVIA

Serb Positions Filled

Serbia has nominated long-time party and government leader Petar Stambolic as its representative on Yugoslavia's new nine-man collective State Presidency. Stambolic has not been active in politics during the last five years. His nomination, like that of Bakaric from Croatia, suggests that the Presidency may very well consist of only highly experienced party veterans.

Other nominations include:

- Dragoslav Markovic to the newly created position of President of the Republic Presidency. Markovic is currently President of the Serb Assembly. A distinguished party veteran whose tenure dates back to the partisan years, Markovic has held a variety of high-level party and state positions. He has spoken out sharply in an effort to calm Serb extremists, and recently accompanied Tito to South Asia.
- Zivan Vasiljevic as President of the Serb Assembly. Currently a member of the Serb party secretariat, Vasiljevic will be the party's watchdog over the new Assembly system.
- Dusan Skrebic as President of the Serb Executive Council. Although he lacks high-level party experience, Skrebic is a trained electronics engineer and has occupied numerous managerial and governmental positions. His administrative expertise will be tested as he searches for solutions to Serbia's economic problems.

25X1

ROMANIA

Ceausescu's Latest Tour

The Romanian President returned to Bucharest yesterday with reason to be satisfied with his official visits to Liberia, Argentina, and Guinea.

25X1

State Dept. review completed

CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79B00864A001400010085-3

CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79B00864A001400010085-3

The most important result of his stopover in Monrovia was a joint solemn declaration based on Romania's well-known "new principles of international relations." Other results include a communique effusively praising Ceausescu's foreign policy, an agreement that the respective economic missions will henceforth handle consular matters, and a number of economic agreements calling for cooperation in the fields of mining, metallurgy, oil development, and the processing of wood and rubber.

In Buenos Aires, Bucharest's principles gained increased status in international law by being enshrined in a formal "treaty of friendship and cooperation." The four-day visit also led to agreements on economic and technical cooperation in the fields of agriculture, mining, finance, banking, tourism, and maritime transport. Part of the accord calls for a \$100 million loan from Bucharest to finance the import of Romanian goods to Argentina. Throughout the tour, but especially in Argentina, the Romanian President's wife was extremely visible. Both Nicolae and Elena received honorary doctorates from the University of Buenos Aires and both later participated in a press conference held in the Argentine capital.

In Conakry, the Romanians signed another "treaty of friendship and cooperation" and found an identity of views with President Toure on every major international question. The treaty reportedly calls for Romania to grant a \$4 million development credit for Guinea.

25X1

POLAND

Influencing India?

Foreign Minister Olszowski's current visit to India (March 11-15) may be of somewhat greater consequence than the usual goodwill tour of an East European glad-hander. Prior to his arrival in New Delhi, Olszowski stopped over in Moscow where he probably picked up a few pointers--first, on how to promote an Indian endorsement of the USSR's projected Asian Collective Security Arrangement, and second, on how to stir Indian suspicions of US plans to expand its military supply base on Diego Garcia Island. Early accounts of the Polish-Indian talks indicate that the two sides discussed New Delhi's efforts to promote peace in Asia and also touched on steps to keep the Indian Ocean a zone of peace.

25X1

After a full workweek in India, Olszowski shorthops to Bangladesh on Friday for a three-day sojourn and then will touch down at Beirut before returning home.

CONFIDENTIAL
Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79B00864A001400010085-3

CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79B00864A001400010085-3

It Leaves You Breathless

Vodka sales throughout Poland plunged by a quarter during the last ten days of January following a sharp price increase dictated by the government. However, the demand for sugar and yeast, both basic ingredients for moonshine, soared. Native ingenuity, it would appear, once more defeated official efforts to curb alcoholism. At the same time, the authorities demonstrated their prowess by peddling the surplus supplies of the legitimate product in Western markets.

25X1

25X1

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Did Writers Fall Out Over Solzhenitsyn?

Embassy Prague reports a minor mystery regarding last week's meeting of representatives from writers' organizations of the Warsaw Pact countries plus Cuba, Mongolia, and North Vietnam. Although the Czechoslovak press said that a communique would appear, none ever did. The only public statement was a garden-variety protest against the Chilean government. The Embassy speculates that some delegations may have refused to accept a proposed text, and it suggests that the disagreement may have reflected differing opinions about Moscow's treatment of Solzhenitsyn.

25X1

25X1

Another Complaint about the Austrians

Prague radio announced on March 12 that four Austrian soldiers had unlawfully entered Czechoslovakia. When a border patrol stopped them, they returned to Austria. The Foreign Ministry has protested to the Austrian Embassy. The incident will no doubt produce an exchange of harsh commentaries, following on the Sejna interviews and Prague's recent complaint about an Austrian helicopter flying too close to Czechoslovak territory.

25X1

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79B00864A001400010085-3

CONFIDENTIAL